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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR 1901

The Museum, while continually fulfilling the duties for which its founders created it in 1870, has, in the past year just closed, extraordinarily increased; its educational value is more and more recognized and its assistance in developing the art industries throughout the country is fully acknowledged.

FINANCES

The statements above published of the Treasurer and of the Finance Committee of the receipts and disbursements during the past year clearly show that our institution continues to grow steadily in financial strength and is without debt of any kind.

VISITORS

The number of persons who visit the Museum increases every year; in 1899, the turnstiles recorded 540,000 visitors; in 1900, 571,500; and in 1901, the number reached 593,946.

The Curator of the Department of Painting has, during the year 1901, issued permits to 208 Artists and Art Students, who have copied 504 paintings on exhibition in our galleries.

The Curator of the Department of Casts has been the whole past summer, and he is now, classifying and placing on exhibition in a chronological order 950 casts which were purchased some years ago by a Special Committee, but for lack of exhibition room, remained till now stored away in the basement of the Museum. The large western gallery in which were formerly displayed the ancient pottery and glass collections was assigned with the hall next to it, to the Department of Casts; the collections therein contained were removed and they are now exhibited in the South Gallery, formerly occupied by the modern statuary.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

There is nothing more difficult for the administration of the Museum than to keep up from year to year the list of its paying members. For one cause or another the loss every year amounts to about ten per cent., and it has been so ever since 1879. This year we lost 203 old members, but we succeeded in getting 299 new ones, thus bringing at the end of 1901, the total number of paying members up to 2,104. For the last ten years the Annual Members' list has been as follows:—

In 1892	there were	1,742	members
" 1893	" "	1,708	"
" 1894	" "	1,731	"
" 1895	" "	1,815	"
" 1896	" "	1,796	"
" 1897	" "	1,848	"
" 1898	" "	1,865	"
" 1899	" "	1,973	"
" 1900	" "	2,008	"
" 1901	" "	2,104	"

NEW WING

The new east extension facing Fifth Avenue is now finished and ready to be equipped; however as the dampness has not entirely disappeared from its stone work, it would be unwise to place exhibition-cases against the walls. The plans for the equipping of this new building were long ago prepared by the Trustees and approved by the Department of Parks, but only part of the equipment has been completed. The most important part, which is that of making the wall-cases, has not yet been commenced; but as the Board of Estimate and Apportionment has, on the 18th of December, authorized the sale of bonds for the remaining amount of one hundred thousand dollars, authorized by the State Legislature, it is hoped that the

making of these cases will now proceed without further interruption.

In the old building three skylights were opened in the Gold Room, a Studio was built over the office of the Curator of Paintings and a new Office built for the use of the Curator of the Department of Casts.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The regular winter course of lectures given every Saturday during the months of December, January, February and March in co-operation with Columbia University has been changed at the request of its President, as the following correspondence will explain:—

"Columbia University,
"In the City of New York,
"President's Room, March 22nd, 1901.

"General L. P. di Cesnola,
"Secretary of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
"New York.

"My Dear Gen. di Cesnola:

"It seems to many of us at the University that the lectures which we are giving at the two Museums winter by winter do not differ enough from the ordinary public lecture to be entirely worthy of the University. We are, therefore, considering a change in this regard which we shall be glad to adopt, if it meets with the approval of the two Museums. Instead of offering courses of lectures to be maintained for three months during every winter, our idea is to secure, each winter, some one person of real eminence, who shall be appointed to give a course of lectures of whatever length may be determined upon, which shall be kept on a distinctly university plane. To secure the services of people of such as I have in mind, the University will have to pay a much larger sum than we have been in the habit of paying for the quasi-popular lectures heretofore given under our auspices. I think, therefore, that it will be practicable for the University to maintain only one course of that character each winter; and this course, if it be agreeable, we should propose to give alternately at the Museum of Art and at the American Museum of Natural History. The lectures at the Metropolitan Museum would of course be upon artistic subjects, and those at the Museum of Natural History upon scientific subjects. I think that in this way it may be possible to establish courses of lectures which will have permanent and distinctive value. The object of this letter is to ask whether this modification of our present arrangement with the Metropolitan Museum of Art would be acceptable.

"Respectfully,
(Signed) "SETH LOW,
"President."

"Metropolitan Museum of Art,
"New York, March 27th, 1901.

"Hon. Seth Low,
"President of Columbia University.

"Dear Mr. Low:

"I received your favor of the 22nd instant, which I read to the
"Trustees at their monthly meeting, held last Monday.

"The Trustees accept the change in the course of lectures which
"you have now under consideration, and this modification of the
"present arrangement with the Metropolitan Museum of Art meets
"with their cordial approval.

"With high regard, I remain,

"Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

"L. P. DI CESNOLA,

"Secretary."

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

During the past year the Museum has received quite a number of gifts from its Patrons and friends; a detailed list of which will be found in another part of this report.

Among the gifts there is one from Mr. Charles B. Curtis of ten \$1,000 Bonds of the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railway Company.

Five legacies have also been left to the Museum, four of which have already been received. They are as follows:—

From the Estate of Victor Henry Burgy, who died in Paris (France) in 1900, a collection of 175 objects, chiefly of the period of Henry II, Louis XIII, Louis XV and Louis XVI, in silver, bronze, silver-plated, iron, lead, wood, etc., representing church candlesticks, snuff boxes, coffrets, clocks, reliquaries, inkstands, Italian faience, paintings, engravings, etc.

From the Estate of the late Miss M. A. Main, ten large plaques (nine porcelain and one glass).

From the Estate of C. V. Sidell, a portrait of John A. Sidell, by John Vanderlyn.

From the Estate of Henry Villard, five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

The Museum, in the will of one of its Annual Members, the late Jacob S. Rogers, has been made the residuary legatee

of his large estate, both personal and real, the amount of which is variously estimated from \$5,500,000 to \$7,000,000. But thus far the Executors of the will have not yet turned over the property to the Treasurer of the Corporation. The conditions in the will are as follows:—

“The income only of the fund hereby created, or intended so to be, to be used for the purchase of rare and desirable art objects, and “in the purchase of books for the library of said Museum, and for “such purposes exclusively, the principal of said fund is not to be “used, diminished or impaired for any purpose whatever.”

A portion of the bequest of coins received last year from the Estate of Joseph H. Durkee, has been labelled and placed on exhibition in the Gold Room. It consists of 252 Roman gold coins in an excellent state of preservation, all valuable and some of them very rare.

There are about 300 other gold coins in the Durkee collection, East Indian, Chinese and Arabic which have not yet been classified and labelled. The rest of the Durkee collection consist of silver, bronze and porcelain coins, chiefly Chinese.

THE JACOB H. LAZARUS SCHOLARSHIP

The Museum Scholarship founded by Mrs. Amelia B. Lazarus and her daughter, the late Emilie, in 1892, in memory of the late distinguished painter, Jacob H. Lazarus, continues to be much coveted, as it provides \$1,000 a year for three years, payable by the Treasurer of the Museum in quarterly installments.

The first scholarship was awarded in 1896, to George W. Breck. The second scholarship was won in 1899, by Andrew T. Schwartz; the third scholarship will be open to competition in October, 1902, and candidates have until September 15th to notify the Secretary or Clerk of the National Academy of Design of their intention to take part in the competition.

The Committee in charge for this year of the Lazarus Scholarship consists of Frederic Crowninshield, J. Carroll Beckwith, Edwin H. Blashfield, Francis C. Ives, George W. May-

nard, Charles F. McKim, H. Siddons Mowbray, A. D. T. Hamlin and Edgar M. Ward.

LIBRARY

The number of books in the Library on the 31st day of December, 1901, was as follows:

Bound volumes	6,211
Portfolios	168
Unbound volumes, reports, catalogues and pamphlets	703

The additions to the Library during the past year have been as follows:

By purchase	342 volumes
By presentation	68 volumes

Including gifts from Mr. S. P. Avery, Mr. George Hall Baker, Mr. Frank Sherman Benson, Mrs. John Crosby Brown, General L. P. di Cesnola, Mr. William C. McDowell, Mr. Henry Marquand, Mr. Henry G. Marquand, Mr. Clarence B. Moore, Mr. H. Shugio, Miss S. C. Very, and Mr. P. A. B. Widener.

In addition to the above the following gifts have been made to the Library:

Two engravings, framed, from Mr. Charles Nordhoff.

Six engravings, by Saint Memin, from Miss E. Dutilh.

Upward of five hundred persons have availed themselves of the privileges of the Library during the past year.

Cards of admission to the Library may be obtained by applying to the Director of the Museum, or to the Assistant Librarian, as heretofore.

By order of the Trustees,

HENRY G. MARQUAND,
President.

L. P. DI CESNOLA,
Secretary.

New York, January 28, 1902.